



COLONNADE

The Official Student Newspaper of Georgia College



GC fights hunger with potatoes

See page 4 for more details.

Photo by Ada Montgomery/ Senior Photographer

GC celebrates diversity, pg. 3



Softball strikes out cancer, pg. 11

Buffington's hosts drag show, pg. 12





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About This Issue...

The news section details last weekend's annual International Dinner and the Give Center's Potato Drop, overviews how faculty, staff and students feel about the Georgia House's campus carry bill, provides an update on the situation at Capital City club and showcases students' preparation for April's Walk MS event in Macon to fight multiple sclerosis.

The Sports section covers Chamique Holdsclaw's visit to GC, in which she

talked about mental health. It also contains stories about the GC soccer team's clinic for local children and the upcoming intramural season.

The A&E section features coverage of an evening of drag, a showcase of Jerome Kaplan's art and the playwriting process of "Habitual."

Join us for pitch on Mondays at 6 p.m. in The Colonnade, located in MSU 128.

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International dinner celebrates GC diversity

Carson
Gregors
@gcsunade

hosted by the International Club on March 11.

"I think it's important for people to understand each other's culture, especially in today's society with all that's going on with politics and everything, so it's really important for people to get that understanding," said junior Priya Ahmed, a nursing major and secretary of the International Club.

Ahmed, whose family is from Bangladesh, said the International Dinner planning began at the end of last semester.

The evening, made possible by over 100 volunteers, began with a welcome from Eric Spears, assistant vice president of International Education and director of the International Education Center, and a video featuring the international students at GC.

Spears said the proceeds from ticket sales and the donations given will help support the Global Scholars Endowed Fund, which aids in financing study abroad students and international students who want to study

at GC.

For dinner, guests had the opportunity to try cuisines from over 40 countries, all prepared and served by international students.

Attendees piled plates high with savory southern bulgogi, a Korean beef dish served with rice, sweet noodle kugel, a Jewish entree, chicken tamales from Spain and Greek salad, among other cultural specialties. The dessert bar's exotic treats included traditional English lemon bars and German black forest cake.

Several students provided the night's entertainment, including vocal, dance and instrumental performances. A fashion show also showcased apparel native to the students' countries.

The closing act was a Bollywood dance performed by Indian actress Tanvi Lonkar, who played the teenage version of the protagonist Latika in the movie Slumdog Millionaire.

This year was Lonkar's third year performing at the event. The junior psychology major said she believes a way needs to be found to unify the international and American students instead of thinking about them separately.

Pascual Diaz, a senior law student from Venezuela, was one of the evening's masters of ceremony. He also voiced concern about the lack of unison between American and

international students.

"I think that American students should come to all of the events organized by the international center," Diaz said. "I think it's very important to create a better relationship between the American students and international students because it's inevitable to have international students in America."

Both Lonkar and Diaz said one of the things they like about GC is the relationships they have built with faculty and the size of the campus.

Bruce Harshbarger, vice president for student affairs, said he and his wife have been at GC for 22 years and have attended nearly every International Dinner, which is a great opportunity to display GC's international students to the Milledgeville community.

Among the guests, Harshbarger said he noticed several retired faculty members and community members supportive of GC, as well as international students from local high schools.

"In my opinion, everyone is born with one vantage point and one framework, a way of seeing things and understanding them," Harshbarger said. "What it means to become educated is to learn to see and understand things from other than that one place where you originally came from. To do that, you need to be exposed to diversity."

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Photo Courtesy of Karen Mullens of Sunshine Photography

Tanvi Lonkar performs a Bollywood dance for the evening's finale.

GC Potato Drop event fights local hunger



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

The Potato Drop makes use of the edible potatoes that cannot be sold in grocery stores because they are deformed or discolored.

Amy
Huang
@gcsunade

The Give Center hosted its annual Potato Drop event, co-sponsored this year by Bobcats Against Hunger, on Saturday, March 11, at West Campus, marking the Potato Drop's fourteenth anniversary.

Most years since its inception, more than 200-300 volunteers gather to divide and repackage 50 pounds of potatoes that will feed approximately 140,000 community members in the Baldwin area and surrounding counties.

"The event offers great potential to have that powerful impact of 'what is that one potato doing and how's it helping,'" said Kendall Stiles, GC senior director for community engagement.

The Give Center receives the potatoes for the drop from Society of St. Andrews in Tennessee, an organization that takes potatoes from grocery stores which cannot be sold because they are deformed or discolored and delivers them to Milledgeville.

Volunteers help unload the tractor-trailer full of potatoes and use the parking lines to fill the spaces and separate the

potatoes into 10-pound bags upon arrival.

"This is a really powerful volunteer event because it's so hands-on," Stiles said. "Sometimes the potatoes will be stinky and smelly, but everyone always looks forward to it."

This year, due to a delay in the potatoes arriving, the event was postponed and moved to noon from its original start time of 9 a.m. Additionally, there was a much smaller turnout than usual, with roughly 30 volunteers present.

However, the volunteers who attended said they were still happy to be there, helping fight hunger.

"I don't think it will be a huge turnout, but I'm happy there is a turnout," said sophomore Anna Phillips, a criminal justice major, on Saturday morning. "I think it's nice getting people together for a good cause and opening their eyes to the positivity and changes they can make."

Sabrina Lee is one of the many agents that receive the potatoes for distribution and takes them to senior citizens.

"I appreciate the college students coming out and helping the community. It's a chance to help others," Lee said. "Plus, the elderly love potatoes."

Unlike previous years, this year's Potato Drop was

hosted in the spring rather than in the fall because there weren't enough potatoes to be distributed last semester.

Despite hiccups like these, Stiles said many people still look forward to the event and expect the Potato Drop every year.

"I've been doing this ever since they started the drop. I think this is a lovely thing to do for the community," said community member Susie Marshall. "We are feeding over 14,000 families, and it's a blessing you can do that."

The Give Center has been doing the Potato Drop for so long now, the planning process has become easy.

"At the beginning it was hard to figure out logistics of the event because we wouldn't know who would show up," Stiles said. "Now it's like clockwork: we have a list of all the agencies, churches and food pantries that attend every year."

The Potato Drop is an event the Give Center recommends all GC students attend at least once.

"The goal is to feed the community, and it's a cool way to fight hunger by something that otherwise would be wasted," said junior Alyssa Ahrens, a psychology major.



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

Roughly 30 volunteers gathered at West Campus on Saturday, March 11, to repackage and redistribute the potatoes to local community members.

GC reacts to GA House campus carry bill

Amy
Strang
@gcsunade

GC students, faculty and staff hold strong opinions concerning controversial legislation regarding concealed carry of guns on Georgia's

college campuses, which passed in the Georgia General Assembly House earlier this month. The bill, which must pass the Georgia General Assembly Senate and be signed by the governor before it becomes law, allows anyone 21 and older with a concealed carry permit to carry their weapons on Georgia's public college campuses.

The campus carry bill passed in the House last year, but was then vetoed by Gov. Nathan Deal.

Rep. Rick Williams said in a statement that he believes the bill will reduce the number of deaths that occur in events like mass shootings.

"Cities and states that allow concealed carry permits have the lowest number of deaths due to gun violence and have the lowest overall violent crime rates," Williams said. "Licensed concealed carry permit holders are among the most law abiding citizens in our great country, and they help to keep the rest of our citizens safe."

Reactions to the bill on GC's campus vary widely.

Junior rhetoric major Sara Stanton said she is not in support of the bill.

"I don't see the need for a gun in the classroom," Stanton said. "It makes me uncomfortable."

Stanton said she thinks there are not enough regulations in place throughout Georgia to control who can and cannot obtain a gun.

"Gun laws need to be more restrictive if we are going to start letting students and professors carry guns into their classrooms," Stanton said.

Junior Ryan Anderson spoke out in support of campus carry.

"It technically only affects those who hold concealed carry permits, allowing them to transfer that to campus in some degree," said Anderson, a rhetoric and history double major. "It will affect everyone's sense of safety and that's



why it's such a hot topic."

He said that he has recently applied for his own concealed carry license, and that if the bill is signed into law, he will likely carry on campus.

Safety seems to be the largest point of concern at GC. Assistant professor of business law Matt Roessing said he foresees genuine concerns regarding intimidation and accidents should concealed carry be permitted on campus.

"Campus carry proponents feel less safe attending or sending their children to schools where weapons are banned," Roessing said. "They would probably feel more comfortable on a campus where carry was permitted."

On the other hand, Roessing said that the presence of guns also leads many to feel unsafe.

"Campus carry opponents may feel less safe if they

knew people around them could legally carry concealed weapons," Roessing said.

Stanton said that if campus carry is signed into law, she will be much more cautious of those who may have guns on campus.

"Ultimately, they'll have a power that I don't, so I'll feel uncomfortable," Stanton said.

As someone who would choose to carry on campus, Anderson said he would be more aware of his behavior on campus and pay more attention to those around him.

"If it were passed, I'd like to advocate to push people to do it safely, while trying to help those who are opposed feel safe," Anderson said.

All eyes are now on the Georgia Senate and Gov. Deal to see whether he will veto the bill again or sign it into law.

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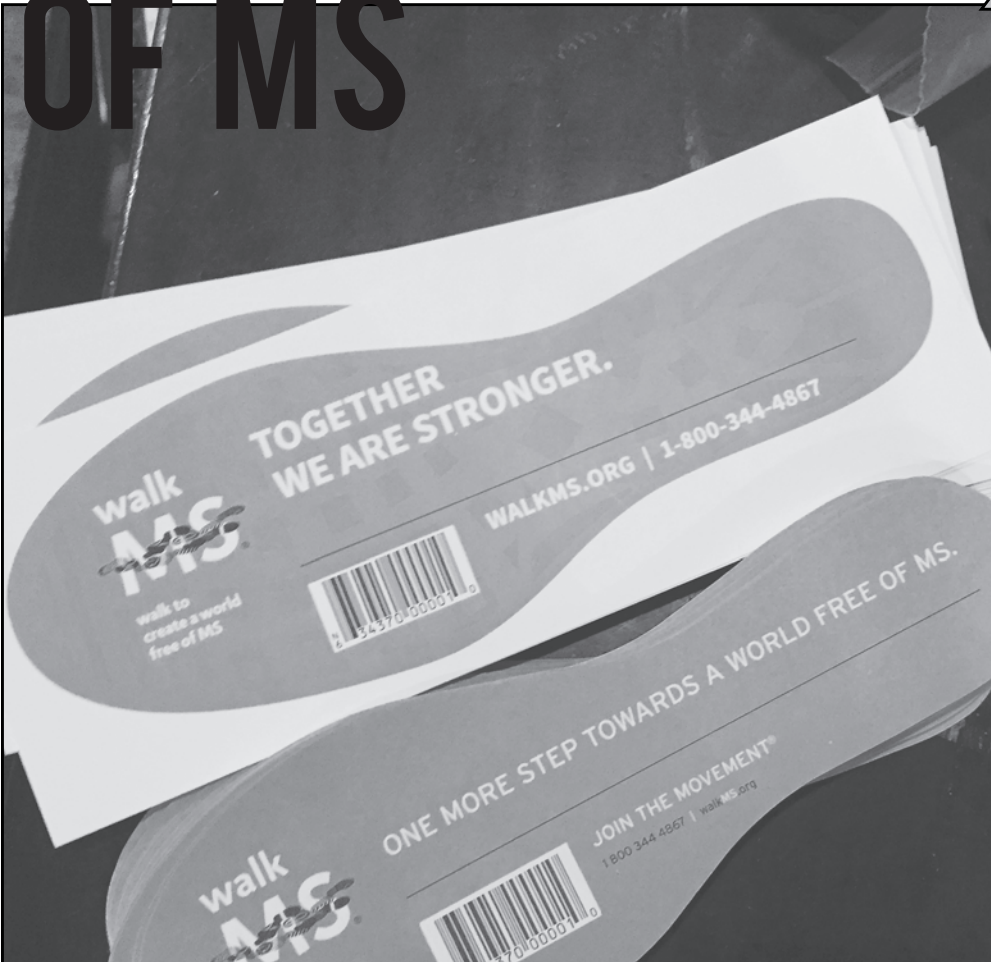
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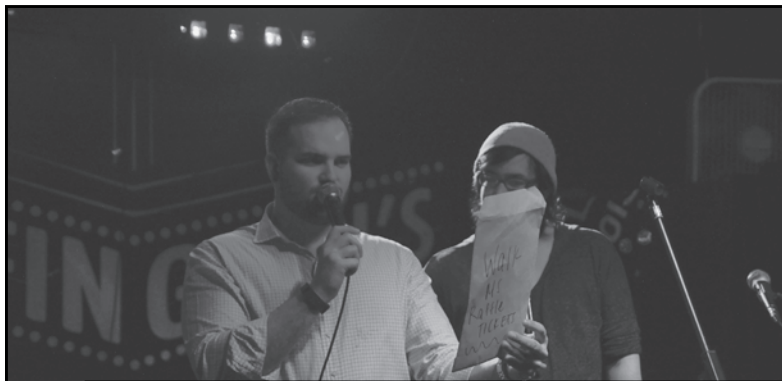


Ada Montgomery/ Senior Photographer

Samantha Smith and Michelle Dublin are the Spectrum PR Co-Directors and are responsible for organizing the Walk MS Kick-off event. They ensure everything runs smoothly and hire students to help out with the cause before the walk on April 8 in Macon, Ga. Their goal is to raise over 1,000 dollars to benefit MS before the walk.



These footprints were sold at the event and can be purchased anytime before the event on April 8. They will be hung in the library for students and faculty to see, in hopes they may encourage people to donate to Walk MS.



Raffle tickets were sold at Karaoke Night in order to raise awareness for the event. The winner of the raffle would receive two free tickets to Andy Hull at Cox Theatre.



Erin Dickman, account executive of the Walk MS event, and Haley Hardeman, a member of Spectrum PR, sell raffle tickets at Buffinton's Karaoke Night.



WGUR 95.3 hosts Tuesday Night Karaoke at Buffinton's to benefit the Walk MS event in April.

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All seems normal at Capital City club two weeks after FBI raid

Ben
Lord
@gcsunade

For many businesses, an FBI and IRS raid like the one conducted on downtown Milledgeville nightclub Capital City earlier this month would be a living nightmare. However, despite felony drug arrests and an ongoing investigation, Milledgeville's nightlife crowds have continued to visit the nightclub.

Two weeks after the unexpected search, Capital is back in business. The DJ spins popular songs, bartenders serve delectable frozen drinks and club attendees dance through the night.

The bar first reopened on Thursday, March 2, for its annual Mardi Gras event, only two days after the initial raid.

Junior and exercise science major Abby Miller said she doesn't let the drug investigation sway her from her regular Capital visits because she loves the music and the atmosphere.

"It was really surprising when it happened," Miller said. "But I have always had great experiences with the door guys and bartenders. I will continue to go to Capital because I have so many memories

there."

The raid shocked many GC students, causing speculation about illegal goings-on at the popular bar.

However, management information systems major and junior Chad Yoon also said the investigation will not keep him from the trendy establishment. He said he enjoys the music and likes to see all his buddies having a good time.

"Personally it won't impact me or my friends from going there just because of the raid," Yoon said. "It'll definitely impact the whole downtown scene if it closes down, though."

Other Capital attendees said they think the situation will affect the business and draw a smaller crowd to the bar. Since it's been such a short period of time, some question how the bar was able to stay open after being raided by the IRS and the FBI.

Junior and special education major Amanda Fritsch, said she thinks the raid on Capital was surprising and doesn't understand how the bar was able to stay open after a big investigation like the one last week.

"I'm confused with how everything happened," Fritsch said. "I just feel like many people don't know what's exactly going on. All this stuff happening and they open the next week?"



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

Capital remains a popular destination for Milledgeville's nightlife crowds.

THIS WEEK AT GC

A calendar of events

Course Registration

March 13-16 @ 7 a.m.

PAWS

Summer and fall 2017 registration begins each day at 7 a.m. Registration time tickets and instructions are available on the Registrar's office website.



3Rs4All Listening Sessions

March 16 @ 9 a.m. in

Kilpatrick Auditorium &

March 17 @ 12 p.m.

Lib Conference Room 302

The Office of Inclusive Excellence invites students, faculty and staff give their input on the implementation of the Diversity Action Plan and ways to improve diversity and inclusion at GC.

MADD Event

March 16 @ 9 a.m.

Front Campus

Gamma Sigma Sigma will host an all-day Mothers Against Drunk Driving awareness event that will feature an obstacle course, drunk goggles and donuts.



"Habitual" Play

March 15-17 @ 8 p.m.

Black Box Theater

The Department of Theatre and Dance, in collaboration with the Cultural Center, presents the play "Habitual," which is for mature audiences, in honor of Women's History Month.

All Week Long

Historical Exhibit: The Strip

The Sallie Ellis Davis House is hosting an historical exhibit on Milledgeville's African-American business district, known as The Strip, that thrived from the early 1900s through the 1970s as a result of segregation. Tours are given every Wednesday and Friday.

For more information, visit frontpage.gcsu.edu.

WNBA player, Chamique Holdsclaw, visits GC



Pierce Maugans/Staff Photographer

Chamique Holdsclaw speaks in front of a group of student-athletes about mental health during her visit to campus last week.

Lauren
Nielly
@gcsunade

On March 6, former WNBA player Chamique Holdsclaw came to GC for a film screening of her documentary, “MIND/GAME: The Unique Journey of Chamique Holdsclaw,” to speak out about mental health.

Holdsclaw played basketball at the University of Tennessee under the coaching of Pat Summitt from 1996-1999, when she was able to win 3 consecutive NCAA Women’s Basketball Championships. Following her time at Tennessee, Holdsclaw was selected first overall in the 1999 WNBA Draft.

During her first season in the WNBA, Holdsclaw was named Rookie of the Year and started in the opening WNBA All-Star Game. Holdsclaw was selected to be on the U.S. Olympic team in her second season playing professional basketball. Although Holdsclaw was extremely successful in her basketball career, she was fighting depression and bipolar disorder, which heavily restricted her passion for the game she’s always loved.

Holdsclaw publicly announced that she was dealing with depression in 2004. Athletes admitting they had mental disorders was rare then and still is to this day. Regardless, Holdsclaw knew she could not overcome her disorder unless she stopped suppressing her thoughts and feelings.

“I was told throughout my whole life that I wasn’t allowed to have a bad day,” Holdsclaw said. “If I was having a bad day, I would have to sweep my feelings under the rug so I could be that public figure. If we don’t have a good balance and management of it, it could really take its toll.”

After a few years out of the spotlight, Holdsclaw starred in a documentary that focused on not only her successful basketball career, but also the obstacles and challenges she dealt with her entire life.

“I’m really glad the film was screened at Georgia College,” said senior Mikayla Gallo. “It’s important for people to recognize the importance of mental health and that anyone can be affected by it.”

Prior to the screening, Holdsclaw spoke to student-athletes at GC about her life journey and the daily struggles she encountered.



Pierce Maugans/Staff Photographer

Student-athletes listen to Chamique Holdsclaw talk about mental health.

“At first I was embarrassed, I thought it was a weakness. I had to really educate myself about it [mental health] and once I started talking, I got more confident because I saw how it helped people,” Holdsclaw said. “Talking allows us to heal, and the advocacy work I do is very healing to me because I feel like I have a purpose.”

Holdsclaw works as a mental health advocate to educate people on the impact it can have on someone’s life. Junior Sue Utt admired Holdsclaw’s willingness to be open about her journey.

“I respect Chamique Holdsclaw for being so open about her struggles through life,” Utt said. “She shows the importance of resiliency when dealing with mental issues.”

Knowing the struggle and challenges of dealing with mental disorders from firsthand experience, Holdsclaw is a credible source for effectively spreading her message across any audience she speaks with. She also shows how this can become a problem for anyone, including superstar athletes like herself.

GC soccer team hosts clinic for local children

Kellie
Murphy
@gcsunade

On Saturday, March 11, the GC soccer team hosted their seventh annual youth soccer clinic for pre-K to eighth-grade students.

The clinic consisted of five stations that the kids cycled through, focusing on different aspects of the game. The clinic wrapped up with a scrimmage. They divided the kids up by age group, and the soccer team posed as coaches for the groups.

"These clinics are apart of my coaching philosophy. I believe in serving the community, it is who we are and it is who Georgia College is," said GC soccer head coach Hope Clark.

This is Clark's seventh season coaching GC soccer. She said she has been implementing and believing in these clinics since she started her position.



Courtesy of Kellie Murphy

Unnbjorg Omarsdottir teaches local Milledgeville kids to play soccer during last weekend's soccer clinic.

Coach Clark said that during the clinic, the team wanted to teach new skills while also creating a bond with the community.

There were more than 75 kids in attendance.

Freshman Renee Mike loved the

opportunity that came with the clinic. As a freshman, it gave her a new perspective on her new town.

"Since I'm a freshman, I haven't had a lot of opportunities to really see the Milledgeville community, but through the opportunity Coach is giving us, I get to bond with the community, so that is what I am most excited about," Mike said.

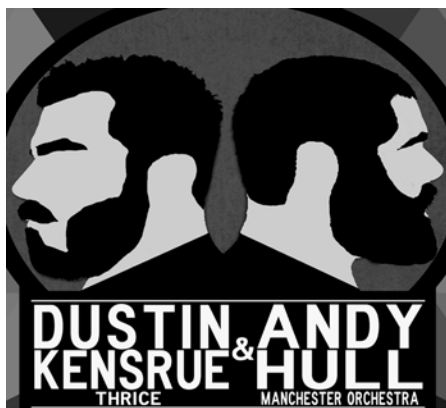
For other players, like sophomore forward Sofia Lekas, having the chance to help out at the clinic was an exciting opportunity.

"We get to bond with the kids and teach them the game. It's really fun, especially because they are so excited about it. Coach is always trying to incorporate giving back so we get a lot out of it as well," Lekas said.

Coach Clark said that even though the clinics are for the kids, it is a great time for parents to take notes. Parents are allowed to come and learn new drills and other practice tactics to take back to their rec teams.

Even though the weather was a bit chilly, the atmosphere of the clinic remained cheerful. From the kids to the players to the parents, the attitude was positive and everyone seemed excited.

Coach Clark said the younger the kids learn the game, the higher the chance they will grow up playing. Even though the clinic is a way to bond with the Milledgeville community, it is also a way to spread the game of soccer to local kids, many of whom have attended the clinic for multiple years.



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Courtesy of Kellie Murphy

Coach Hope Clark talks to local kids participating in the soccer clinic.

Rec Sports set to begin late spring season



Courtesy of GC Rec Sports

A group of intramural players celebrate after winning the men's division flag football championship in the fall 2016 intramural season.

Maddy
Stone
@gcsunade

GC Rec Sports is always encouraging students to get involved with intramurals. This spring they offered a “free team” to those that could recruit students that have never played on an intramural team before. Every intramural season they give away “free teams” to the first 100 teams that sign up to play.

The late spring season will officially start on Sunday, March 19, and will last until the end of April. There are currently 249 teams signed up to participate for

seven different sports offered for late spring intramurals, one of the more popular being 4v4 flag football.

“I look forward to competing during the spring evenings. I enjoy this intramural season because the games provide an outlet from school as the year comes to a close,” said senior Zack Case, a marketing major.

The deadline for team registration has passed, but students can join an existing team at any time.

Intramurals are huge here at GC, as there are currently 2,042 students involved. This year there have been 19,070 games played and a total of 940 teams. Rec Sports promotes intramurals to both men and

women. As of right now, their participation percentages are 53 percent male and 46 percent female.

“The level of involvement does not matter. Whether you want to be here every night or only play in a few games throughout the semester, we encourage you to come play,” said director of GC Rec Sports Bert Rosenberger.

There are a few GC students in particular that dominate the intramural fields. Entering his last phase of college intramurals, senior Timmy Mertz leads the school with the most sacks in flag football. Mertz plays both receiver and safety.

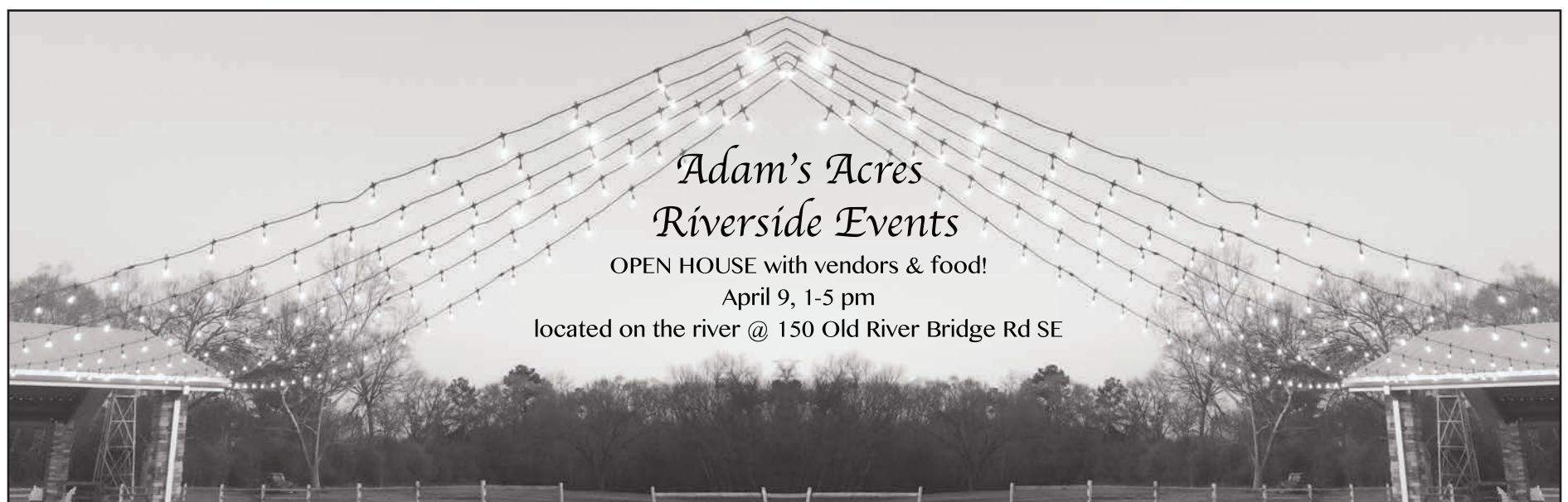
“My key to success is following

the motto knock knock,” Mertz said, a management information systems major.

Senior Nathan Vickroy leads the school with 160 wins so far this year. GC women are also dominating the charts, Madison Fletcher and Caroline Long are currently leading the women in number of victories.

Senior Caroline Long is also entering her last phase of college intramurals.

“This is my last season playing intramurals with some of my best friends,” said Long, a mass communication major. “We are extremely excited to hopefully go out with some champion shirts.”



Softball team hosts Strikeout Cancer Day

Chris
Lambert
@gcsunade

The GC softball team partnered with the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) by hosting Strikeout Cancer Day in a conference doubleheader matchup against UNC Pembroke on Sunday, March 12.

The national organization collaborates with softball teams all across the country each year in an effort to raise money, increase awareness and remember those who have battled cancer.

The NFCA has been promoting the event since 2001, and GC head softball coach Jamie Grodecki has been a fervent supporter of the program in what is now her seventh year leading the Bobcats.

“We like to acknowledge those that are either fighting the battle or have lost the battle to cancer,” Grodecki said. “We will wear pink, but it’s not just for breast cancer, it’s for all types of cancer. This is just our opportunity to use our platform as a team and raise some awareness.”

The athletes, as well as members of the coaching staff and administration, were asked to submit names of people they wanted to honor or remember in the game. The names were all collected and read in between innings.

Cancer affects many families throughout the U.S., but this disease hits a little closer to home for outfielder Shawnda Martin, whose father, Shawn, was diagnosed with cancer in 2016.

“Last year, my dad was able to come out and throw the first pitch (for the Strikeout Cancer game), and it really meant a lot to him,” said Martin, a junior and special education major. “It was not just me going through it alone, I had my teammates and coach right there with us, they’ve been through it all with me. It’s nice to know I’ve got them there to speak for me and know they’re praying



Pierce Maugans/Staff Photographer

The softball team enters the huddle, sporting pink jerseys for the annual Strikeout Cancer Day.

for me and my family. Even though he’s in remission now, we are still fighting the fight.”

Athletic director Wendell Staton put an emphasis on the education aspect of the day.

“Cancer, unfortunately, literally touches everyone, so anytime we can take the opportunity to raise awareness and hopefully raise some funds, that’s something we try to do,” Staton said. “We can use this platform to raise awareness and educate throughout the country, whether it be volleyball, a road race. The education piece, as far as informing the public about testing and mammograms, is vital for awareness throughout the country.”

The doubleheader presented an opportunity for the Bobcats to raise their fifth-place standing in the Peach

Belt Conference, with a 4-1 conference record heading into the games. GC was able to put away UNC Pembroke in Game 1 after a fielding error by the Braves allowed junior Holland Coursey to score, breaking the 4-4 tie in the bottom of the seventh inning, granting the Bobcats a walk-off win.

The Bobcats took Game 2 by a score of 9-1 in five innings. Holland Coursey set the tone offensively, going 3-for-4 with three RBIs to back Brook Taylor’s five-inning, one-run performance on the mound.

The softball team is now 18-10 on the season and have won 12 of its last 13 games. They will be back in action at home against the University of West Georgia at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15.

UP NEXT...

Saturday 3/18

**Men's
Tennis
vs.
Midwestern
State**

11 a.m.

**Women's
Tennis
vs.
Midwestern
State**

11 a.m.

Sunday 3/19

**Men's
Tennis
vs.
West
Alabama**

11 a.m.

**Women's
Tennis
vs.
West
Alabama**

11 a.m.

A NIGHT IN DRAG:

8:51 P.M.

Dana finishes up getting ready for the night, which requires lots of combing and pigtails
“I love performing...I’ve always wanted to act and perform and the thing that I am best at is hosting shows,” Dana said.



9:49 P.M.

Our first winner of drag bingo! The winners of each round get to pick from the large array of prizes, including an assortment of mugs and blankets, among other things.



8:55 P.M.

Dana runs into her co-host and performer, Katrina.



8:57 P.M.

After some hugs and screaming, Dana and Katrina finish getting ready, which requires some very high heels. Then it's time to head upstairs for drag bingo.



9:59 P.M.

When a bingo ball falls, Katrina takes the opportunity to pose.

8:54 P.M.

Time to find the ladies! Dana leads the way to the basement, where the performers are preparing for the show.



COUNTDOWN TO QUEENS

COMPILED BY GIOIA BRUST



10:37 P.M.

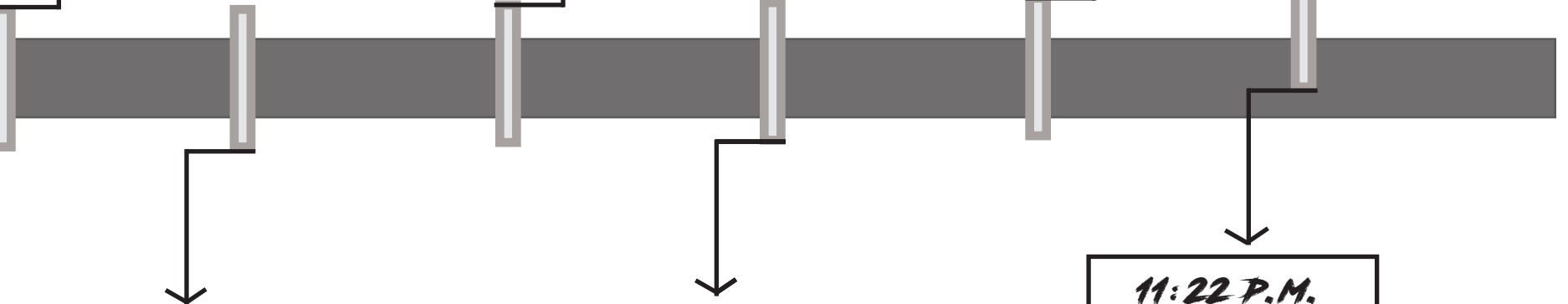
Dana begins wrapping up drag bingo since the show begins at 11.

10:47 P.M.
The rest of our ladies getting prepared.



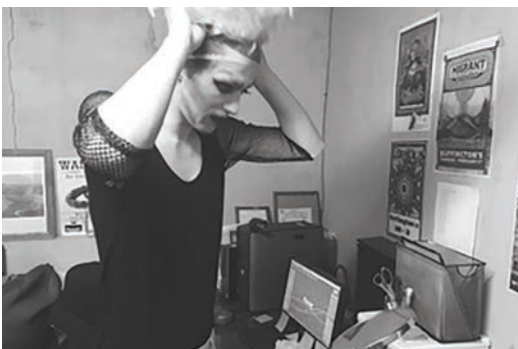
11:15 P.M.

Running a little late, the crowd is growing and getting excited as time goes by.



10:43 P.M.

'Karasel' arrives, one of the five performers of the night, and finishes putting on her wig.



10:55 P.M.

With five minutes to spare, Katrina comes out dressed and changed for the show.

11:22 P.M.
The show begins!



Art exhibit shines light on Kaplan's creativity

Morgan Anglin
@gcsunade

One way to make an already sublime evening better? Visit an art show at the Museum of Fine Arts in the Underwood House for an evening of snacks, drinks and extraordinarily eccentric artwork done by Jerome Kaplan. The late Kaplan's pieces have been shown everywhere from the Museum of Modern Art to the Library of Congress.

"He always had a silly sense of humor. He liked weird things," said his daughter, Lindsay Kaplan. "I think what he liked about the macabre was the sense of mystery - you don't exactly know what it is."

Kaplan's works are an amalgam of images both eerie and familiar, displayed in chronological order throughout the house. In the beginning, there are prints; thoughtful imitations and observations of life in Philadelphia, combining jazz, some social commentary and humor to form strange images in black and white.

These give way to more complex etchings: a ghoulish portrait of the catacombs in Rome and a symbolic portrait of the Jewish ceremony, Sukkot.

His final portraits were completed after he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Despite the immense variety of medium, subject and style, there is something distinctly Kaplan-esque in each piece.

"All of his works are exactly the way he intended them to be," said art historian Ron Rumford. "He found new ways to be unknowable, and that seems to have been his mission - to leave us all guessing."

In fact, Kaplan was rather averse to art criticism and the over-analysis of various pieces, preferring the viewer to form their own interpretation of the art.

"He hated artist's statements," said his wife, Anna. "He wanted his work to be ambiguous."

For all of Kaplan's distaste for art criticism, there's an element of tenderness which contrasts significantly with the dark eccentricity of his pieces. Creating mostly from memory, he was known to carry a sketchbook wherever he went, drawing inspiration from the city, from the absurd, the symbolic, the arcane. Kaplan dedicated himself to the pursuit of all things strange and beautiful.



One of Kaplan's pieces featured in the Underwood House.
Lauren Kirby/Staff Photographer



Q: If you were a fake news organization, what would you call yourself?

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"The Donald Diaries."
- Frances Hildenbrand, junior, sociology major



"Under the Toupee with Donald Trump."
- Callum Lever, senior, environmental science major



"The Orange Wig."
- Evan Hearn, senior, environmental science

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Page by page: the process behind the play "Habitual"

Gabi Schwobe
@gcsunade

This week "Habitual" will be showing in the Campus Black Box Theatre. The 30-minute play is written, directed and produced by GC students.

"Habitual" is about three sisters who get locked in a pantry at their family's diner, and it's a journey on how they come to terms with who they are and how their relationships have affected one another.

Senior Joanna Grissom, a theatre major and director of the play, worked hand-in-hand with the writer behind it, senior Ashley McGlathery, a creative writing major.

Together, they have been working on the piece for almost a year. McGlathery said she would write drafts until, page-by-page, they completed the whole piece.

"It's really difficult, but also really rewarding because I've gotten to work on this piece since there wasn't even a piece," Grissom said. "Ashley and I have worked together for so long on it, so it's really exciting to have it all come together."

Just like any other production, it is not always smooth sailing. The director faced some challenges, but not anything she could not overcome.

"Always making sure that we were all on the same page and taking each other's feedback in was difficult, because it's always hard when you're critiquing your peers," Grissom said, "but I really feel like it was the perfect group because we all really respect each other."

Sophomore Nathan Popp, a double major in psychology and theatre, is the stage manager for "Habitual." As stage manager, he took on responsibilities for things like organizing the schedule so everyone could make rehearsal times, making sure they always had a place to rehearse and keeping control of the whole production and everyone involved.

Popp had no difficulty working with the actors. However, his hardest challenge throughout this process was working with a different group.

"The hardest challenge I faced was definitely handling the designers," Popp said. "That's because when you're trying to get them to meet they just have a lot of conflicts, so trying to get them in on the same schedule as everyone else was hard at times."

Freshman Elle Porter, a double major in sociology and theatre, will be starring in the play. This will be her first time in a GC production. Porter is no stranger to the stage, though she knows that every production is different and can be challenging.

"This character specifically was hard to play because she is older, and I'm not an older sister, so that was difficult figuring that out," Porter said.

Habitual will have its first showing at 8 p.m. this Wednesday, March 15, at the Campus Black Box Theatre.



Ashley Cooper//Staff Photographer



Madeline Ender, Elle Porter and Ally Wood rehearse for "Habitual." The show opens March 15 in the Black Box.

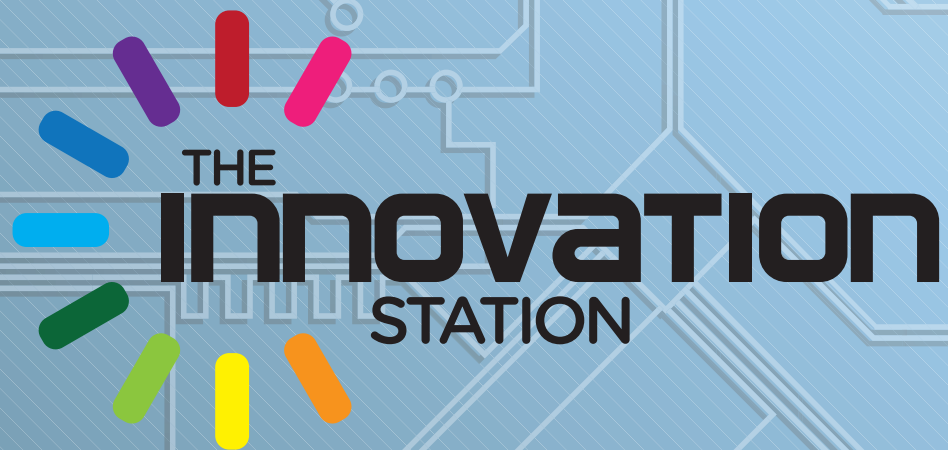
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